

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 STR-01 COME-00 AGR-05

TRSE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NEA-09

NSAE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

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DRAFTED BY EB/OT/TA:WBARRACLOUGH:MEH

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STR:GFEKETEKUTY

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P R 272000Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD TRADE COMMITTEE MEETING, MARCH 4-5

REF: OECD PARIS 2483

1. US DEL TO OECD TRADE COMMITTEE INTENDS RAISE UNDER
THE AGENDA ITEM ON NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES IN TRADE
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POLICIES AND PRACTICES THREE RECENT ACTIONS BY OECD

COUNTRIES WHICH IN OUR VIEW SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE NOTIFICATION AND CONSULTATION PROCEDURES OF THE TRADE COMMITTEE. THEY ARE: (A) THE FRENCH CREDIT FACILITY DESIGNED TO INCREASE INVESTMENT IN PRODUCTION FOR EXPORT (PARIS 20100), (B) AUSTRALIAN TARIFF QUOTAS AND QR'S (STATE 34021), AND (C) PROPOSED BRITISH INFLATION INSURANCE PLAN FOR EXPORTERS (LONDON 2753).

2. ALTHOUGH WE VIEW THESE ACTIONS AS INCONSISTENT WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE OECD TRADE PLEDGE, WE DO NOT RPT NOT INTEND RAISE THEM SPECIFICALLY AS VIOLATIONS OF THE PLEDGE BUT AS MEASURES WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE TRADE COMMITTEE AND/OR ITS WORKING PARTY UNDER EXISTING OECD CONSULTATION PROCEDURES. OUR PROPOSAL TO EXAMINE THESE MEASURES WILL BE CAST IN TERMS OF THE NEED IN CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS TO HAVE AN EFFECTIVE,

FUNCTIONING MULTILATERAL SURVEILLANCE OF MEASURES TAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED BY OECD COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE OR CAN HAVE SIGNIFICANT TRADE IMPACT ON OTHER OECD MEMBERS. WE WOULD PROPOSE LEAVING TO THE CONSULTATIONS THEMSELVES ANY EXPRESSION OF VIEWS ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF THESE MEASURES, IF ANY, TO THE TRADE PLEDGE AS WELL AS ANY CONCLUSIONS WHICH MIGHT BE DRAWN FROM SUCH AN EXAMINATION CONCERNING THE NEED TO IMPROVE THE OECD'S EXISTING CONSULTATION PROCEDURES IN VIEW OF THE OBLIGATIONS OF OECD GOVERNMENTS UNDER THE TRADE PLEDGE. SUCH A DISCUSSION WOULD, IN OUR VIEW, BE HELPFUL IN REINFORCING THE CONSENSUS ON THE CONTINUING NEED FOR THE TRADE PLEDGE.

3. MISSION SHOULD APPROACH OECD DELEGATIONS OF FRANCE, AUSTRALIA AND THE UK TO INFORM THEM IN ADVANCE OF OUR INTENTIONS. IF THEY ASK FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION YOU MAY NOTE THAT DEP. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE GLITMAN IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS WITH THEM LATE MONDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 3. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE, MEETING AGENDA, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE044524
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WBARRACLOUGH:MEH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750069-0900
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975026/aaaaafam.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 OECD PARIS 2483
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OECD TRADE COMMITTEE MEETING, MARCH 4-5
TAGS: ETRD, OECD
To: OECD PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006